



Preliminary Report Railroad DCA15MR002

The information in this report is preliminary and will be supplemented or corrected during the course of the investigation.

On Thursday, October 16, 2014, at 10:25 a.m. central daylight time, a northbound Arkansas & Missouri Railroad (A&M) locomotive struck a stopped, southbound A&M passenger excursion train at milepost 368.25 in Brentwood, Arkansas. All 39 passengers and 4 crewmembers went to local hospitals and medical centers with non-life-threatening injuries.

The excursion train consisted of one locomotive and four historic passenger cars. Before the collision, the excursion train had stopped on the main track because a severe reduction in adhesion to the rail made it impossible for the train to move up the 1.10 percent grade. The excursion train's engineer radioed the A&M maintenance-of-way supervisor and then called the train dispatcher to request assistance. The striking locomotive was dispatched northbound on the same track to assist the excursion train. About 46 minutes later, the striking locomotive collided with the excursion train at about 25 mph.

At the time of the collision, the first passenger car behind the locomotive was empty. A conductor and passenger were in the second car getting supplies. The remaining 38 passengers were traveling in the last two cars. All four passenger cars separated from the locomotive as a result of the collision, but they did not derail. They rolled north about 67 feet before coming to a stop. The engineer and conductor, who were in the cab of the passenger train locomotive, suffered minor injuries.

The striking locomotive was crewed by an engineer and conductor. The conductor jumped from the locomotive just before impact and suffered back and ankle injuries, which required admittance to a hospital. The engineer of the striking locomotive remained in the locomotive during the collision and sustained minor injuries.

About 40 gallons of diesel fuel were released from a generator fuel tank on one of the damaged passenger cars. No fires occurred as a result of this accident. Damages to the locomotives, passenger cars, and track were estimated to be \$178,500. The weather was sunny with scattered clouds; it was calm, and the temperature was 66°F.

The parties involved with the investigation include: the Federal Railroad Administration and Arkansas & Missouri Railroad.